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QUARTERLY REPORT April - June 1987

The highlight of this quarter was the "International Symposium on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena; 1947-1987...A World View," held June 26-28 at the American University in Washington, D.C. This year's annual MUFON Symposium was hosted by the Fund for UFO Research. It took place during the 40th anniversary of the modern UFO era. Several major events took place during the week of the Symposium:

- o On June 24, ABC's "Nightline" featured an overview of the 40-year history of UFOs (including an interview with the Fund's Chairman, Dr. Bruce Maccabee) and a debate between nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman and aviation writer Philip Klass. A focus of discussion was the recent release by investigators Bill Moore, Jaime Shandera and Friedman of what appears to be a top secret document prepared for President-elect Eisenhower on "MJ TWELVE," a special group charged with investigating the crash and retrieval of alien hardware and bodies near Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947. (The documents and supporting information are available from the Fund; see the enclosed reply form.) The "Nightline" interview was initiated by Larry Koss.

- o On June 25, a special briefing for the foreign press was conducted at the Foreign Press Office of the U.S. Information Agency. Participants were Dr. Maccabee, Shandera, Budd Hopkins and Koss. Also present were Symposium speakers from Argentina, Canada, England, Italy and Zimbabwe. About 50 members of the foreign press corps attended. A videotaped record of the briefing was made and is available from the Fund.

- o On June 26, Dr. Maccabee presented a briefing on the history of UFOs for Members of Congress and their staffs--the first such briefing on Capitol Hill in nearly 20 years. Approximately 40 representatives of congressional offices attended.

- o Later that day, a large number of media representatives came to a major news conference to publicize the Symposium at the American University. On stage were Dr. Maccabee, Bill Moore, Stanton Friedman and Budd Hopkins.

The Symposium officially began Saturday morning, with opening remarks by Walt Andrus, MUFON International Director, and Dr. Maccabee. Presentations by the International Speakers followed. (The Symposium Proceedings are available from MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, TX 78155, for \$15.00 plus \$1.50 postage.)

In the afternoon, a number of attendees presented contributed papers on a wide variety of aspects of the UFO subject. This was the first UFO symposium to have contributed papers, which are common features at meetings of major scientific organizations. (Abstracts of the papers are available from the Fund, along with a complete contributed paper by Dr. Willy Smith and two major papers which were received too late to be included in the Proceedings (Stanton Friedman on ufology in Canada and Vicente-Juan Ballester-Olmos on ufology in Spain).)

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Those who attended the Banquet on Saturday night heard a riveting talk by Bill Moore, who revealed for the first time how he has established a connection with an "inside source" who has supplied some valuable UFO documents, including the "MJ TWELVE" document mentioned earlier.

Following the Banquet, there were two panel discussions on abduction cases: one consisting of investigators of such cases, the other of individuals who report having been abducted.

The panel of "abductologists," chaired by Dr. Michael Swords, included Budd Hopkins, Dr. David Jacobs and Dr. Eddie Bullard, author of a comprehensive catalog of abduction cases. (Dr. Bullard's entire study--and a summary version--are available from the Fund.) As a result of his work, the Fund presented Dr. Bullard a special "Award for Scientific Achievement," including a check for \$500.

The panel of "abductees," chaired by Dr. Jacobs, included Whitley Strieber (author of the best-seller, Communion), "Kathy Davis" (the principal subject of Budd Hopkins' latest book, Intruders), and a number of other individuals who agreed to speak publicly about their experiences. For many of the 500 attendees, this panel discussion was the highlight of the Symposium.

(Incidentally, a special videotaped program, MUFON Symposium Highlights, is being prepared exclusively for the Fund by a professional TV producer and will be available in the near future; advance orders are now being taken. The program will include highlights of the panel discussions.)

The remaining International Speakers and contributed papers were presented on Sunday. A highlight of the day was the panel on government responses to the UFO question. Featured were: Bill Moore, Stanton Friedman, Barry Greenwood, Bill Chalker of Australia, Jenny Randles of England, Jenny Zeidman (a close colleague of the late Dr. J. Allen Hynek), and Dr. Maccabee. (Jenny Randles' latest book, The UFO Conspiracy, is available from the Fund, as well as audio tapes of the Sunday speakers and the government panel discussion.)

Despite some problems with the facilities, the Symposium was a huge success. The bold attempt to pay travel expenses for speakers from all parts of the world was unprecedented in the UFO field, but it, too, was successful--thanks to the generous donations of the Fund's contributors.

Income from the Symposium was approximately \$30,000; however, expenses were approximately \$17,000 for facilities and \$15,000 for speakers' travel expenses. Therefore, expenses exceeded income by a small margin. A more detailed summary will be provided in the next Quarterly Report.

The Fund for UFO Research has only two sources of income to support its activities: contributions and sales of documents and other educational materials. Contributions to the Fund are 100% tax deductible; the price of documents is 50% tax deductible.

Because of unanticipated expenses for the Symposium, the Fund is facing a serious cash flow problem. If we are to take advantage of the resurgence of interest in the UFO phenomenon, we need to raise a substantial amount of money in the near future. All contributors of \$10 or more will receive a special "I Support UFO Research" button which was specially designed for the Symposium with our rallying cry: "Forty Years Is Long Enough!" If you are committed to solving the UFO mystery, we know you will wear your button proudly. As they say in the commercial: "We thank you for your support."